

One of the World's Oldest Continuously Active Radio Amateur Clubs - since 1917

Vol. 15 No. 7 - July, 2007

## President's Letter

by Howard, AB9FH

Another Field Day behind us. I hope you had the chance to get on the air. My daughter Sarah, KB9ZNC, and son, Charlie, joined me in staying overnight, a first for this family. Conditions could have definitely been better, but at any given moment you could find somebody who was making contacts, on phone, cw, or PSK31. My impression was we had fewer operators but our QSO count was 52% higher (478 vs 313) than 2006. What will we do in a year or so when the solar cycle is on its way up?

Special thanks are due to our FD chairmen Pancho, KA9OFA, and Jim, WB9LNU, with many assists. Larry, NZ9I, made computer logging possible on impossibly short notice and it made a very favorable impression on operators. Joe, N9UX, rigged up our network cables and Charles. KC9IIV, made the food (and I see from the log made a few contacts as well). I don't think an antenna went up that Mark, AB9CD, wasn't involved with somehow. I am sure I am missing more than a few others who shared radios. computers and opinions. Cheryl Riedel, KA9WOE, Helped in many ways. Planning for next year has already begun.

A big thanks to Pioneer Village for letting us use the depot, again. We couldn't find a better place to have a Field Day or a picnic, for that matter. The cooperation we had from everyone at Pioneer Village was great.

Next big thing: our 90th Anniversary Special Event. This will take place August 4th and 5th. We'd like to get people to sign up for shifts to cover the various bands for most of that time. That way, the world can know when to call. Ever been at the bottom of a pileup? It's more fun than you remember from 3rd grade. The historical nature of our special event might encourage more verbose contacts than your usual contest "ur 59 tks". See the article on page 3 for more information.

Remember the Friday club nets: 10m Net at 8 p.m. on 28.490 MHz, 2m Net at 9 p.m. on the club repeater 145.390-PL 127.3! Hope to hear you out there on the bands.

Howles

73 de AB9FH

#### **MRAC Officers**

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Joe Schwarz N9UX

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## NETS HEARD IN THE MILWAUKEE AREA

DAY	TIME	MHz	ACTIVITY	Wed. 8:00	PM 145.130-	ARRL voice news
Daily 6	MA 00:8-00:6	14.2900	Milwaukee / Florida (SSB)	Wed. 9:00	PM 145.130-	MAARS Swapnet
Daily 5	5:15-6:00 AM	3.9850	Wisconsin SSB net	Wed. 8:00	PM 147.270+	- Weather & Swap Net
Daily	7:30 AM	144.1550	Breakfast RoundTable (SSB)	Thu. 9:00	PM 50.160	6 m. SSB Net
Daily	9:30 PM	3.9725	Country Cousins Net	Thu. 9:00	PM 146.910-	Computer Net
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.8650-	ARES Net (Walworth and ARRL news)	Fri 8:00	PM 28.490	MRAC W9RH 10 m. Net (SSB)
Mon.	8:00 PM	146.4450	Emergency Net	Fri. 9:00	PM 145.390-	W9RH 2 m. FM Net after 10 mtr. net
Mon.	8:45 PM	147.1650	ARRL voice news (ARES)	Sat 9:00	PM 146.910-	Saturday Night Fun Net
Mon.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 m. SSB Net	Sun. 8:30	AM 3.985	QCWA (Chptr 55) (SSB)
Mon.	9:00 PM	147.1650	ARES Net (Milwaukee-Waukesha)	Sun. 9:00	AM 145.565	X-Country Simplex Group (FM)
Tue.	9:00 AM	50.1600	6 m. 2nd Shifters' SSB Net	Sun. 10:00	AM 443.800	FM-38 link to 146.88 Baraboo Swapnet
Tue.	8:00 PM	144.2500	Badger Contesters (SSB)	Sun. 8:00	PM 28.365	MKE Guardian chptr 10-10 net
Tue.	9:00 PM	50.1600	6 m. SSB Net	Sun. 8:00	PM 146.910-	Information Net
Wed.	8:00 PM	28.365	MKE Guardian chptr 10-10 net	Sun. 9:00	PM 146.910-	Swap Net

2 meter repeaters are offset by 600 KHz -- 70 centimeter repeaters are offset by 5 MHz SSB frequencies below 20 meters are LSB and for 20 meters and above are USB

#### HAMATEUR

HamateurChatter is the newsletter of MRAC (Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club), a not for profit organization for the advancement of amateur radio and the maintenance of fraternalism and a high standard of conduct.

MRAC Membership dues are \$17.00 per year and run on a calendar year starting January 1.

MRAC general membership meetings are normally held at 7:00 p.m. the last Thursday of the month except for November (3rd Thursday due to Thanksgiving) and December, when Christmas dinner takes the place of a regular meeting.

Meetings are held at:

Redemption Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall 4057 N. Mayfair Rd. Milwaukee, WI

# UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Our July 26 meeting will feeture Tom Liebe, WI9TOM, talking about

**P5K3I** 

## **CREDITS**

Our thanks to our news contributors this month:

AB9FH KA9OFA KF9PU KC9IJJ WB9PSE KB9ZNC

Our thanks also goes to:

Rita Doneis, Hal Newton, and Tom Fuszard, for proofreading the 'Chatter this month.

Thanks also to Dick Wood

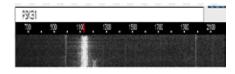


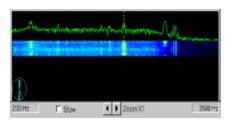
for mailing the hard copy of the 'Chatter and to Joe Schwarz, who Emails the 'Chatter.

Brian White, who administers our Web Site.

Mark Tellier, Tom Fuszard, and Tom Czaja who manage our VEC.

Thank YOU!







## GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 6/28/07

By Sarah Parks, KB9ZNC

The meeting was called to order at 8:13 p.m.

Everyone ID'd loud and clear.

The minutes were read. There were no corrections. Pancho, KA9OFA, moved to accept them as read, which was seconded by Joe, N9UX.

Howard, AB9FH, read a treasurer's report, and explained that almost all treasurer issues have been resolved; Mark, AB9CD, had his name put on the bank's signature card and statements will be sent to Mark's house. Pancho moved to accept the report, which was seconded by Tom, N9UFJ.

Mark noted that the repeater guys may have propositions regarding spending money in a few months.

Following Buzz Talk, Ted, WA9RDI, asked if anyone had 5-6 inch lengths of old computer ribbon cable.

For our 90th anniversary we will be doing special QSL cards. Suggestions for design are welcome. A sign-up sheet for time slots is available.

The South Milwaukee SwapFest is on July 7th. A table was going to be set up, and anyone who had an item or two or who cared to sit at the table for a time was welcome.

The club owns a five-band vertical antenna, which Dick, WB9PTC, would like to purchase. The general consensus

was not to sell (it could still be used for Field Day).

Howard, AB9FH, stated that our club has been somewhat lacking in public recognition. If you know of someone who deserves special recognition for special HAM or Club service, please bring it to the attention of the board.

Regarding next year's Field Day, Pancho, KA90FA, said preparations will begin months in advance. If anyone has suggestions, complaints, or wishes to volunteer, contact Pancho.

Mark suggested sending a donation to Pioneer Village. Pancho moved the club send \$100. Tom, N9UFJ, seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Mark also suggested in assisting in Scouts JOTA (October 20-21).

Joe, N9UX, made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Jim, W9LCD.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah, KB9ZNC MRAC Secretary

## MRAC 90TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EVENT August 4-5, 2007

**Who:** MRAC members

**What:** 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Special Event, celebrating 90 continuous years of service to hams and the community.

Where: Your station or a friend's. It helps to have someone to spell you. Techs, here's another chance to get on HF. Operate according to the privileges of the highest license present; use the club callsign W9RH. Log time (UTC), band, mode, callsign, city/state/province/country.

**Published frequencies:** 28.470, 14.270, 7.260, and 144.240. Try to stay within 20 kHz of these. If you are going to operate CW, let us know what frequencies and we will publish those as well

**When:** 00:00Z August 4<sup>th</sup> through 23:59Z August 5<sup>th</sup> (7 p.m. Friday to 7 p.m. Sunday) We have a signup sheet so we can try to cover the various bands for the whole 48 hours.

**Why:** 90 years is a long time! Here are some MRAC Fast Facts:

Founded January 1917 – Affilliated with ARRL December 1919 – Started classes 1922

- Sponsored 1st Central Division Conference
   May 1928 Participated in first Field Day
- Sponsored Wisconsin Convention 1940
- Sponsored National Convention September
   1948 Started VEC 1984 10m Net 1988 –
   Repeater 1992 2m Net 1996 VHF Simplex
   Contest 2003

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## FIELD DAY REPORT

#### By Pancho Doneis, KA9OFA

Field Day on June 23-24 is done and I must say it was a great success. We had weather that was as good as you could ask for. It was also a great time for our MRAC club picnic.

There were 46 people signed up on the register with four coming from faraway Norway. We had roughly 27 active participants at Field Day of which 11 (excluding the GOTA operator) actually were on the air.

We operated with a designation of 6A which means we at onetime were operating our club event with six stations at once and on commercial power. Operating conditions were good especially on Sunday morning. We had no operators on the air from about 3:00 a.m. to about 6:00 a.m. Everyone had had just about enough by 3:00 p.m..

Basically we had operations in CW, Phone, and PSK31 operating on 80, 40, 20, and 15 meters.

We made 115 CW contacts, 96 PSK31 contacts, and 267 phone contacts for a total of 476 contacts on 15, 20, 40, and 80 meters. Ten meters was dead with 15 meters almost dead. We traditionally haven't operated on 160 meters for Field Day.

This year, we added a new feature to our operation, which is that we were operating with networked computers for logging. That enables us to know instantly before we made a transmission if the one we were lis-

tening to would be a duplicate (saving time and energy chasing dupes). It also makes scoring a lot easier.



Many thanks to Larry, NZ9I (ex-KC9IJA), for giving us the push that we needed and networking expertise for getting us into the 21st century, so to speak, and for some of the equipment and for purchasing the networked logging computer program. Thanks also goes to Joe, N9UX, for making up the required networking cables, to Ted, WA9RDI, for the use of a couple of computers, and to Buck, K9RYW, for the use of a keyboard. Thanks also goes to Charles, KC9IIV, for procuring and preparing the food. Mark, AB9CD, was somehow involved in the stringing or erecting of most of the antenna installations. Cheryl, KA9WOE (KA9AJF's XYL) even showed up on Sunday morning to help log and then tear down.

I also wish to extend a great vote of thanks to Jim, WB9LNU, for co chairing Field Day this year with me. He has been instrumental in all of our Field Day operations since before I came into the club.

I'd like to extend a big "Thank you" to Pioneer Village for the use of their facilities and especially Al Remmel, the caretaker, for his cooperation.

I think that it's safe to say we all had a good time.



First operator on the air for Field Day 2007 Bill Fullhart, W9WCF



One of our CW operators at Field Day 2007 John Merkl, WB9PSE

## **EVENTS**

#### Anniversary Event Sat.-August 4, 2007

#### Circus City SwapFest \*

Sat. - Aug 11, 2007 Sauk Cty Fairgrounds Baraboo, WI T/I on147.315+rptr

#### Sat.-August 11, 2007

Western Illinois ARC Eagle's Alps Quincy IL



Sat. & Sun. - Sep, 39 & 30, 2007 Boone Cty Fairgrounds Belvidere, IL T/I on 146.760 - (PL 107.2)

#### **ORC**

#### HAM Radio and Computer SwapFest

Sept. 9, 2007 Circle B Recreation Center Cedarburg, WI Fri. & Sat. - September 14-15, 2007 DXCC Convention Northern Illinois DX Assn. Holiday Inn Elk Grove Village, IL T/I on 147.360 www.peoriasuperfest.com

\* <u>indicates</u> <u>VE testing</u> is available.

# VE NEWS BY TOM, KF9PU

There was no exam session in June. Our next exam will be held at AES on July 28th.

VEC Financial report for June:

Beginning balance: 4,580.75 Income: \$0 Expenses: \$31.19 Balance: \$4,579.56

### REMINDERS

Please check into our nets on Friday evenings.

Our ten meter SSB net is at 8:00 p.m. at 28.490 MHz ± 5 KHz USB.

Our two meter FM net follows at 9:00 p.m. on our repeater at 145.390 MHz, minus offset and a PL of 127.3 Hz.

Join us for Saturday morning breakfast at Maxim's Restaurant, 18025 W. Capitol Dr. We usually meet at around 8:00 a.m., and order around 8:15 a.m. The food and the company are good and you don't have to be a member of the club to join us.

#### CQ Third Tuesday

Come to CQ Third Tuesday at:

#### **Old Country Buffet**

16750 West Bluemound Rd. Brookfield WI

This gathering of HAMs meets on the third Tuesday of every month.

We start arriving there at 11:00 a.m. and leave when we're full and/or all talked out.

## **DEADLINE**

The **deadline** for items to be published in

Hamateur Chatter is the 7th day of each month.

## EXAM SCHEDULE

BY TOM FUSZARD, KF9PU

MRAC VEC
Exam Schedule
For remainder of 2007

## No VE Exams in June or August.

Sat., July 28 9:30 a.m. @AES Sat., Sep. 29 9:30 a.m. @AES Sat., Oct. 27 9:30 a.m. @AES Sat., Nov. 24 9:30 a.m. @AES

For details, check out: www.w9rh.org/testing.htm/

#### **AES = Amateur Electronic Supply**

5710 W. Good Hope Rd. Milwaukee, WI

Here is a scheduled of the VE Test Sessions in Janesville, Wisconsin for 2007:

> July 21, 2007 October 20, 2007

The time and location is listed on the ARRL Listed Test Sessions or on my **N9FRY** call page under QRZ.COM.

The **next meeting** of **MRAC** will be **Thursday**, **July 26**, **2007** at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Redemption Lutheran Church**

Fellowship Hall
4057 N. Mayfair Rd.
(Use the south entrance)
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE

Please, DON'T call the church.

Our Repeater, Talk It up. 145.390- MHz (127.3 Hz PL) Vol. 15 No. 7 - July, 2007

Our program for the July 26th general meeting will feature:

Tom, WISTOM,
will make a presentation
about PSK31

Visit our website at: **www.w9rh.org**Our phone (414) 332-MRAC
332-6 7 2 2



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